

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 - 10. (Cancelled)

OK to ENTER
DEB
1-24-05

11. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for processing meat which comprises a ~~rotating paddle stationary vessel massager or rotating vessel tumbler containing impact vanes;~~
the apparatus comprising:
a rotating paddle stationary vessel massager or rotating vessel tumbler containing impact vanes ~~each comprising a~~ vessel for receiving bodies of meat in contact with a treating liquid and for agitating said bodies of meat to distribute said treating liquid in said bodies of meat;
means for selectively heating and cooling said vessel during the agitation of said bodies of meat therein;
a jacket for said vessel, said means for selectively heating and cooling said vessel comprising a refrigeration unit for cooling a liquid and circulating the cooled liquid through said jacket and a heater for heating a liquid and passing the heated liquid through said jacket selectively; and
a temperature sensor positioned for direct contact with bodies of meat in said vessel and operatively connected to said means for selectively heating and cooling said vessel for controlling a temperature of said vessel during the agitation of said bodies of meat therein, said temperature sensor being provided with a member capable of being thrust into said vessel to pierce a body of meat therein, said member having a plurality of sensing regions along a length thereof for providing an average temperature of the body of meat pierced thereby.

Claims 12-16. (Cancelled)